

550903

September 19, 2001

RECEIVED

United States Department of Energy
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
PO Box 30307
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

SEP 24 2001

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to state my opposition to the choice of Yucca Mountain as a repository for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. I do not believe that sufficient study has been done to deem the area satisfactory and "safe" from radiation exposure for 10,000 years.

I don't know a lot about the history of the nuclear business, but I believe that there are a lot more effects from prior radiation releases and from nuclear testing done in Nevada than the U.S. government is acknowledging to the public. And I understand that there has been criticism of the Yucca Mountain project from the scientific community.

I am wondering if the water table and flows are really understood enough to insure NO contamination. The project is in an arid area, but so was the unlined nuclear dump near Beatty, Nevada. It was "thought" that there was no need to protect the Beatty dump because it was arid. But then came a large flood and nuclear waste was no longer contained! That is unacceptable.

And what about transportation? Who is responsible for clean up in the event of an accident while transporting nuclear waste? Is Inyo County responsible if it occurs in that county? Inyo County is not set up to deal with a disaster of that kind. One reason Yucca Mountain was chosen is because it is in an area of low population density. If indeed the whole plan is perfectly safe, then a better choice for a repository would be a high population area. Show the U.S. people that there really IS NO problem with nuclear waste!

Lastly, I believe we need to stop constructing nuclear products in the first place. We do not need more weapons. I cringed when President Bush in his speech said that America is a peaceful country. I don't call a country peaceful if they bomb innocent civilians or cause coups in foreign countries to try to get what they want. We train our school kids to work things out and not to hit when they are hit. Why does our government practice something different? STOP CREATING NUCLEAR POISONS!

Please, don't use Yucca Mountain as a high-level waste facility.

Sincerely,



Sara Steck
388 Shepard Lane
Bishop, CA 93514